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San Bruno Files Legal Motion to Compel PG&E to Produce 65,000 Emails in CPUC Corruption Scandal

***Also Seeks U.S. Attorney, California Attorney General Subpoena
Against CPUC, PG&E to Produce Emails that May Show Additional
Corruption Between Regulator, Utility Company***

San Francisco—The City of San Bruno today filed legal papers to compel Pacific Gas & Electric Co. to produce 65,000 emails that may demonstrate additional illegal contact between the California Public Utilities Commission and the state's largest utility company.

San Bruno took the action today after PG&E refused to voluntarily turn over the emails by a 5 p.m. Monday, Oct. 20 deadline.

Pursing all options to obtain these emails, the City of San Bruno also today sent a letter to the U.S. Attorney and the California Attorney General to issue subpoenas for records that could expose further corruption between CPUC decision makers and PG&E.

"Both PG&E and the CPUC have refused to comply with separate requests for the 65,000 emails that may show additional illegal activity on the part of PG&E executives and CPUC

Commissioners and staff,” said San Bruno Mayor Jim Ruane. “After all of the illegal activity that has already been exposed, we are outraged by this inaction. We will continue to pursue all legal remedies to force the release all 65,000 emails – the public has a right to know what they contain even if that information is further damaging to the credibility and integrity of the CPUC, PG&E and our State’s government.”

Ruane said that both the CPUC and PG&E are legally obligated to turn over the documents. The CPUC, a state agency, is required to do so under the California Public Records Act. PG&E, a private corporation, is also obligated to produce records requested by parties involved in an ongoing regulatory case, according to CPUC rules.

In February, San Bruno filed a lawsuit in Superior Court to compel the CPUC to comply with four unfilled records requests dating back more than 10 months.

That lawsuit resulted in the CPUC handing over more than 7,000 pages of communications that ultimately exposed illegal contact and emails between CPUC Commissioners and PG&E executives, forcing the resignation and recusal of CPUC President Michael Peevey and the recusal of Mike Florio from the PG&E San Bruno explosion and fire penalty case.

The City’s lawsuit and subsequent disclosure also led PG&E to admit that it knew of additional illegal contact, which resulted in its “self-reporting” of internal emails and the termination of three of its top executives.

“We cannot be misled by PG&E’s description that the company ‘self-reported’ all the remaining illegal and unethical emails and contacts out there when we now have proof of a longstanding scheme between the CPUC and PG&E to corrupt open channels of government regulation and public safety,” Ruane said.

“We filed a lawsuit the first time the CPUC denied access to public records – this time we hope PG&E and the CPUC do the right thing and produce the records voluntarily as required by law,” Ruane added.

The U.S. Attorney’s office and the California Attorney General’s office have now launched separate investigations into the email scandal, and San Bruno officials say if the CPUC and PG&E remain unwilling to produce the documents, both law enforcement offices could issue subpoenas to force their disclosure. The City has sent letters to both offices calling for such a move.

Finally, Ruane said PG&E and the CPUC’s unwillingness to turn over these records provides more evidence of the need for an Independent Monitor at the CPUC to deliver a critical

watchdog function that has been woefully neglected by current CPUC leadership and help restore public trust and confidence in a damaged agency.

“Eight San Bruno citizens died on that horrible night in September 2010 – innocent victims of the same pattern of collusion and deception on display at PG&E and the CPUC,” Ruane said.

“Now is the time for actual accountability, for meaningful reform of both PG&E and the CPUC and for those responsible for the public’s safety to abandon the business as usual mentality that contributed to disaster so that what happened in San Bruno never happens again.”